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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
MODELING TASK FORCE  
July 25, 2012

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**MINUTES**

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**THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE  
MODELING TASK FORCE.**

The Modeling Task Force held its meeting at SCAG's Main Office in Los Angeles on July 25, 2012.

**Members Present:**

Anup Kulkarni (Chair)  
Brian Smolke  
Eric Bierce  
Firooz Hamedani  
Gus Jimenez  
Kyra Tao  
Nancy Velgara  
Paul Burke  
Robert Farley  
Rye Baery  
Tony Van Haagen  
Terry Roberts

OCTA  
OCTA  
Cambridge Systematics  
Caltrans – District 12  
Fehr & Peers  
Parsons Brinkerhoff  
OCTA  
Metro  
MTA  
Safe Routes to School  
Caltrans – District 7  
ARB

**SCAG Staff Present:**

Cheryl Leising (via web-conference)  
Hao Cheng  
Mana Sangkapichai  
Mike Ainsworth  
Rajeev Seetharam  
Sungsu Yoon

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**1.0     CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Mike Ainsworth (SCAG), Substitute Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM and introductions were made.

**2.0     PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no public comments.

**3.0     CONSENT CALENDAR**

**3.1     Approval Items**

The March 28, 2012 meeting minutes were approved.

**4.0     INFORMATION ITEMS**

**4.1     Updates on Subregional Modeling Programs**

The “Updates on Subregional Modeling Programs” item was postponed until the next Task Force Meeting, due to time constraints.

**4.2     BlueTOAD Travel Time and Origin/Destination Collection System**

Stan Garren from Econolite Control Products gave a presentation on BlueTOAD (Bluetooth Travel Time and Origin/Destination Collection System) and described how the device operates for collecting traffic data. The system can be used to collect travel speed and traffic volumes using Bluetooth technology. Vehicles carrying Bluetooth enabled devices in the vicinity of a BlueTOAD transceiver will be captured using an anonymous identification device number and immediately reported to the TrafficCast traffic data center. The BlueTOAD system has various programs to process and report the data.

For further information or to view the presentation, the PowerPoint presentation is available at:  
<http://www.scag.ca.gov/modeling/mtf/index.htm>

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**4.3 SCAG FY 12-13 Modeling Priorities**

Guoxiong Huang (SCAG) provided an overview of the modeling program including a description of major changes and priorities for the upcoming fiscal year. He stressed that collaboration is becoming more critical with a major emphasis on sharing resources for the upcoming 2016 RTP. With the successful completion of the 2012 RTP, SCAG is now focusing on implementing the programs contained in the 2012 Plan. To facilitate this implementation effort, SCAG recently conducted a reorganization, primarily affecting two divisions: 1) Transportation Planning and 2) Land Use/Environmental Planning. Guoxiong described the functions (departments) under the Land Use/Environmental Planning Divisions including:

1. Active Transportation & Special Programs Department
2. Compliance & Performance Monitoring Department
3. Modeling & Forecasting Department
4. Research & Analysis Department
5. Sustainability Department

Under the Modeling & Forecasting Department, Guoxiong provided an overview of each of the 6 major functions (units).

1. Transportation Models – ABM and Trip Based
2. Scenario Planning Model
3. Data Analysis & Dissemination
4. Small Area Forecasting
5. Land Use Model
6. Air Quality/Conformity Modeling

Modeling and Forecasting Department's priorities for this year include: continue work on developing an activity-based model, updating the trip-based model, updating the Subregional Modeling Tool, developing a Scenario Planning Model, finalizing the Land Use Model, and continued outreach efforts to modeling partners.

SCAG is focusing on strengthening the outreach and sharing resources, and will be meeting with jurisdictions to enhance collaboration and communication. Guoxiong also discussed the schedule for the modeling activities.

**4.4 California Household Travel Survey**

Mike Ainsworth (SCAG) gave an update on the California Household Travel Survey. He described the three survey components: 1) Caltrans/Nustats Survey, 2) SCAG/Abt-SRBI Survey, and 3) SCAG's Management Consultant. The progress of the Survey was also discussed, with the primary concern being the lower than expected response rates. Mike discussed the reasons and issues that are affecting the response rate, including the need for enhanced outreach

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to hard-to-reach households. Also presented was the schedule for the Survey and the expected number of survey returns.

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<http://www.scag.ca.gov/modeling/mtf/index.htm>

**4.5 SCAG's Activity-Based Model**

Hsi-Hwa Hu (SCAG) gave an update on SCAG's Activity-Based Model. At this time, the Model has moved from development to operations. The recently completed Phase 2 effort focused on building a model based on 2008 RTP model inputs and parameters. Phase 3 has begun, with the Model being updated with 2012 RTP model setting and is scheduled to be completed by the end of this year. Phase 3 work activities include, testing both Window and Linux Versions of the Model, knowledge transfer/training, supercomputer implementation, and model sensitivity testing. The goal is to have the Activity-Based Model ready for use in the 2016 RTP analysis. By mid-2014, the Department needs to complete the preliminary model estimation and calibration including updating the activity-based model based on the California Household Travel Survey.

For further information or to view the presentation, the PowerPoint presentation is available at:  
<http://www.scag.ca.gov/modeling/mtf/index.htm>

**5.0 CHAIR'S REPORT**

There was no Chair's Report.

**6.0 STAFF REPORT/INFORMATION SHARING**

There was no Staff Report.

**7.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**8.0 ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am. The next meeting of the Modeling Task Force will be held on September 26, 2012 at the SCAG offices in downtown Los Angeles at 9:30 am.